OFFICE of LIBRARY SERVICES

Investing in libraries across America

Academic Libraries • Archives • Digital Libraries
Public Libraries • Research Libraries • School Libraries
State Library Administrative Agencies • Tribal Libraries
Library Consortia and Organizations

OFFICE OF LIBRARY SERVICES

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal funding for America’s libraries and museums. The Office of Library Services makes grants to libraries of all types and sizes across the nation each year.

Through the Grants to States program, more than $160 million is distributed among State Library Administrative Agencies in every state and U.S. territory each year, based on population. In 2019, IMLS also invested more than $28 million in discretionary or competitive grants, funding 329 projects to help libraries and archives better serve the public.

FY 2019 LIBRARY SERVICES FUNDING

Library grants also went to U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States in the Pacific, including American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, and Palau.

LIBRARIES: SO MUCH MORE THAN BOOKS

Through the agency’s grants for SMALL AND RURAL LIBRARIES, a Vermont school library is transforming into an interactive student learning hub.

San Jose State University is helping libraries explore expanding Internet access in their communities with TV White Space, a new low-cost technology, to improve DISASTER PREPAREDNESS.

In New Jersey, the Talking Book and Braille Center provides no-fee, home delivered services to the state’s PRINT-DISABLED POPULATION and assistive technology outreach to VETERANS.

In Indiana and California, libraries are helping caregivers increase the words spoken daily to their children, boosting EARLY LITERACY and kindergarten readiness.

In Alaska, the Chilkat Indian Village of Klukwan is recording and preserving TRIBAL KNOWLEDGE of Chilkat ‘Tlingit elders’ traditions to revitalize their use by clan leaders.

Library cooperative OCLC is conducting research to investigate how libraries are working with their communities to address the OPIOID CRISIS.

In Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands

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With partners from across the U.S., a Rhode Island library is developing innovative ADULT EDUCATION and WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT library practices.
GRANT PROGRAMS

ACCELERATING PROMISING PRACTICES FOR SMALL LIBRARIES
Up to $50,000
Supports projects that strengthen the ability of small and rural libraries and archives to serve their communities.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP GRANTS FOR LIBRARIES
Up to $1,000,000
Invests in projects that address challenges facing the library and archives fields and generate results such as new tools, research findings, or models that can be widely used.

LAURA BUSH 21ST CENTURY LIBRARIAN PROGRAM
Up to $1,000,000
Supports professional development and training projects to develop a diverse workforce in libraries and archives.

NATIVE AMERICAN LIBRARY SERVICES BASIC GRANTS
$6,000 - $10,000
Non-competitive grants available to eligible Native American and Native Alaskan organizations that support existing library operations and/or maintain core library services.

NATIVE AMERICAN LIBRARY SERVICES ENHANCEMENT GRANTS
$10,000 - $150,000
Competitive grants available to eligible Native American and Native Alaskan organizations that can be used to enhance existing library services or to implement new services.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN LIBRARY SERVICES
$10,000 - $150,000
Competitive grants available to nonprofit organizations primarily serving and representing Native Hawaiians that may be used for existing library services or to implement new library services.

For upcoming application deadlines, visit imls.gov/grants.

All grant programs are subject to the availability of funds and IMLS discretion. Deadlines are tentative. Additional funding opportunities may become available throughout the year.

IN YOUR STATE

Through the Library Services and Technology Act, IMLS Grants to States provides funding to 59 State Library Administrative Agencies. The program is the largest source of federal investments in U.S. public libraries.

Grants to States funds support vital services across the nation, meeting the needs of children, caregivers, teenagers, adults, senior citizens, the un- and under-employed, and the business community.

In recent years, 37 percent of Grants to States projects indicated a focus on rural areas, with programming in diverse areas such as workforce development, early learning, and STEM.

THE 2019 PROGRAM BUDGET WAS $160.8M WHICH GENERATED OVER $82.5M IN MATCHING FUNDS AND $533M IN STATE SUPPORT.

RESOURCES

Explore more information on the IMLS website, including:
- Data from public libraries with the Library Search and Compare: imls.gov/labs/search-compare.
- Data and a report on preservation and conservation practices at collecting institutions: imls.gov/hhis.

COMMUNITY CATALYST INITIATIVE
The agency’s flagship initiative challenges museums and libraries to transform how they collaborate with their communities. Current work involves an in-depth evaluation of grantee projects and CCI’s capacity-building approach. Visit imls.gov/cci.

MEASURES THAT MATTER
M4M, in collaboration with the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies, examines, evaluates, and maps public library data collection practices. Recent research explores potential relationships between public library activities and community outcomes. Visit measuresthatmatter.net.

NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL
Since the festival’s inception in 2002, IMLS’s sponsorship of the Parade of States, along with the Library of Congress Center for the Book and the National Endowment for the Humanities, has focused on libraries, literacy, and the library profession.

NATIONAL STUDENT POETS PROGRAM
In partnership with the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, NSPP recognizes students’ achievements with the nation’s highest honor for youth poets presenting original work. During their year-long appointments, the poets engage museums and libraries across the U.S.

INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES
Visit imls.gov to explore all of IMLS’s grant programs and resources.

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